

3628

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Michael J. Gazewood

Serial No.: 09/898,735

Filed: 03 July 2001

For: "Ribbed Sealing Element and Method Of Use"

Docket No. 115.015

Group Art Unit: 3628

Examiner: James M. Hewitt

Attention: Box Amendment, No Fee  
Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

Enclosed are the following:

1. Certificate of First Class Mailing;
2. Response to Election/Restriction Requirement;
3. Stamped Postcard;
4. For any fee deficiencies, or any other additional charges, the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1822. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed for charging purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11-Apr-1-2002

C. Dean Domingue, Reg. No. 33,682  
Domingue & Waddell, PLC  
First National Bank Towers  
600 Jefferson Street, Ste. 515  
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501  
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GROUP 3600



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RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated 19 March 2002, Applicant offers the following. At page 2, paragraph 1, the Examiner required restriction between two groups. Namely, Group I dealing with claims 21-28 and 34-37, drawn to an apparatus for use in a tubular member and, Group II dealing with claims 29-33 drawn to a method of sealing and anchoring a device within a tubular member.


Applicant provisionally elects Group I, namely claims 21-28 and 34-37. Applicant respectfully makes this provisional election with traverse.

The Examiner notes that Group I and Group II are related as process of making and product made. The Examiner further states that in the instant case, the device can be anchored by welding instead of using a setting tool and deforming.

Applicant respectfully submits that all claims of the present application are clearly directed to a single inventive concept. Reconsideration of the requirement is respectfully requested. For instance, in claim 21 the anchoring apparatus for use in a tubular member includes setting means for driving the top swage member downward relative to the top swage's longitudinal center axis and radially deforming the first cylindrical anchoring member. In claim 29, the method of sealing and anchoring a device within a tubular member includes driving a top swage downward relative to the top swage's longitudinal center of axis with a setting tool, and then deforming the first cylindrical sealing member and expanding radially outward to seal and anchor as fully set out in claim 29.

In conclusion, Applicant elects Group I (claims 21-28 and 34-37). The election is made with traverse. Applicant respectfully submits that all claims of the present application are directed to a single inventive concept. If it would aid in the disposition of this matter, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted,

 11-April-2002

C. Dean Domingue, Reg. No. 33,682  
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Date of Deposit 11 April 2002

**CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING**

I hereby certify that the attached Response to Election/Restriction Requirement, Transmittal Letter and a stamped postcard are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "First Class Mail" service under 37 CFR 1.8 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Richard  
Gloria Richard